

City of Blue Lake
City Council
Mad River Grange – 110 Hatchery Rd., Blue Lake, CA
February 1, 2017
PUBLIC FORUM MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Councilmembers Present: Adelene Jones, John Sawatzky, Jean Lynch, Summer Daugherty

Councilmembers Absent: Bobbi Ricca

Planning Commissioners Present: Rick Platz, Dennis Whitcomb, Earl Eddy

Planning Commissioners Absent: Karen Nessler, Robert Chapman

Staff Present: City Manager Amanda Mager, City Clerk April Sousa, City Planner Garry Rees

Establish Quorum of City Council and Planning Commission Members

City Clerk Sousa established a quorum of Council and Planning Commission Members.

Introduction and Overview of Proposition 64 and Review of Ground Rules

City Manager Mager gave an overview and introduction of Proposition 64 and the ground rules for the meeting. It was noted that there was a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) sheet regarding Proposition 64 for the public to view.

Public Forum for Input regarding Reasonable Regulations on the Cultivation and Use of Marijuana within the City Limits of Blue Lake

Mayor Jones opened the Public Forum for input. Several members of the City of Blue Lake were present.

Comments included:

- Commercial Creation Business of any kind allowable within the Blue Lake Business Park
- Allow Marijuana Medical Dispensaries
- Indoor growing OK, but don't allow outdoor growing
- Outdoor growing is ok with reasonable restrictions and a fence
- Blue Lake needs to collect taxes on Marijuana grows
- Careful of how indoor growing affects rental space and how much landlords charge for rent.
- Encourage the Council to look at regulating the impacts for cultivation and business
- Council should look at regulating processing and manufacturing, including butane use and hash labs
- Impact of distribution centers should be looked at
- Regulate household energy use
- Look into crime rate, housing prices.
- Commercial cultivation in Industrial Park OK
- Look at other businesses besides growing, such as cannabis spas, bed and breakfasts, etc. Cannabis touring.
- Concern with barns and warehouses within residential areas. Concerns of what zoning regulations would be in residential zones.
- Open Space be used for commercial growing
- Council should consider a special use permit process as commercial zoning is interspersed throughout Blue Lake
- Keep in mind that there are already regulations in place with Prop 64, including limiting plants.
- Consider and Excise tax for area of commercial growing.
- Keep commercial cultivation in light industrial areas
- Consider Planning Commission to review zoning and what might be possible.
- Consider no commercial cultivation or use
- Consider edible marijuana sales – would give City sales tax
- Council should look into smoking laws
- Concern on enforcement
- Reminded Council it's not always about the money
- What about use and growing around children and areas where there are children – Parks and schools and day cares.
- Consider pesticide use of outdoor cultivation
- What about water use for growing
- How can the City regulate water use for growing
- Comments regarding how illegal growing is impacting water versus how legal growing would impact water
- Comments regarding Landlords can say no growing in rented out houses, but City cannot say no to growing inside houses.
- Council should look at other jurisdictions and zoning regulations to include marijuana cultivation

- Comments regarding cultivation near the levee and trail access and other public green spaces.
- Council should consider adding a separate ordinance just for smoking marijuana
- Commercial permitting should consider security measures dependent upon risk and what the commercial use would be

After all comments were made, The public was reminded that surveys would be accepted until February 8, 2017 and that all comments and results of the survey would be reviewed at the next Council meeting. These results would be placed in the packet for the meeting, and would further be available at City Hall and on the website for the public to view.

Adjourn

Mayor Jones adjourned the Public Forum at 8:13 p.m.

April Sousa
City Clerk